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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A Bouqu
of Calif
FLOWE

PROEM.

ROUNDEL.

This lovely rose I send,—
Saved from December's snows:
Will not thy heart befriend
This lovely rose?

Its leaves sweet thoughts inclose,
Which richer fragrance lend
Than were it a mere rose.

Its sweet-breathed tale, dear friend,
Must my fond heart disclose,
And make thee comprehend
This lovely rose.

NOTE.—Though the climate of California is semi-tropical, and choice roses grow out of doors the whole winter through, a sudden snow storm will sometimes cover gardens in full bloom with two and three inches of snow. This happened even in San Francisco, December 31, 1882.

A Christmas Greeting.

A COLLECTION OF RONDEAUX AND POEMS

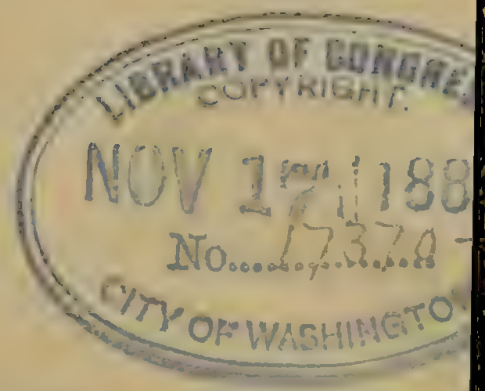
OF

FRIENDSHIP AND AFFECTION.

A Bouquet of California Flowers

BY

JAMES T. WHITE.



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JAMES T. WHITE & Co., Publishers,
23 Dupont Street, San Francisco.

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HELIOTROPE.

RONDEAU DE DÉDICACE.

Dear heart, to you these songs I bring,—
Affection's simple offering,—
And lay them at your feet anew;—
The echoes of sweet thoughts of you
My heart is ever cherishing.

To you such happy memories cling,
My thoughts on eager, rapturous wing,
Take flight in song the whole day through:
The songs are happy songs I sing,
Dear heart, to you.

These songs,—may they a fragrance fling
About your life! Make flowers of spring
On every hand your path bestrew!
They will my happiness renew,
If rest and peace and joy they bring,
Dear heart, to you.

A BOUQUET OF CALIFORNIA FLOWERS.

CONTENTS.

Proem.

Heliotrope *(Devotion).*

Heartsease *(Thoughts):*

Periwinkles *(Pleasing Remembrances):*

Immortelle *(Immortal Love).*

Mariposa Lily *(Dependence):*

Wild Forget-me-not *(Forget-me-not):*

Lily of the Valley *(Return of Happiness):*

Orange Blossom *(Plighted Faith).*

Honeysuckle *(Bonds of Love):*

Ivy Leaf *(Fidelity):*

L'Envoi.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

I.—Fond thoughts of home and olden times
Set sail through memory's Golden Gate.

II.—A thousand white-winged keels
Seek haven in your hearts to-night,

III.— Forget the old farewells
In greetings brought by Christmas Bells.

I.—Ring "Peace on earth, to men good will."

II.—The Christmas bells ring sweet and clear
The loving thoughts of all the year.

III.—And waft to her the chimes.

IV.—Tell her my thoughts can ne'er abide
Apart from her at Christmas-tide.

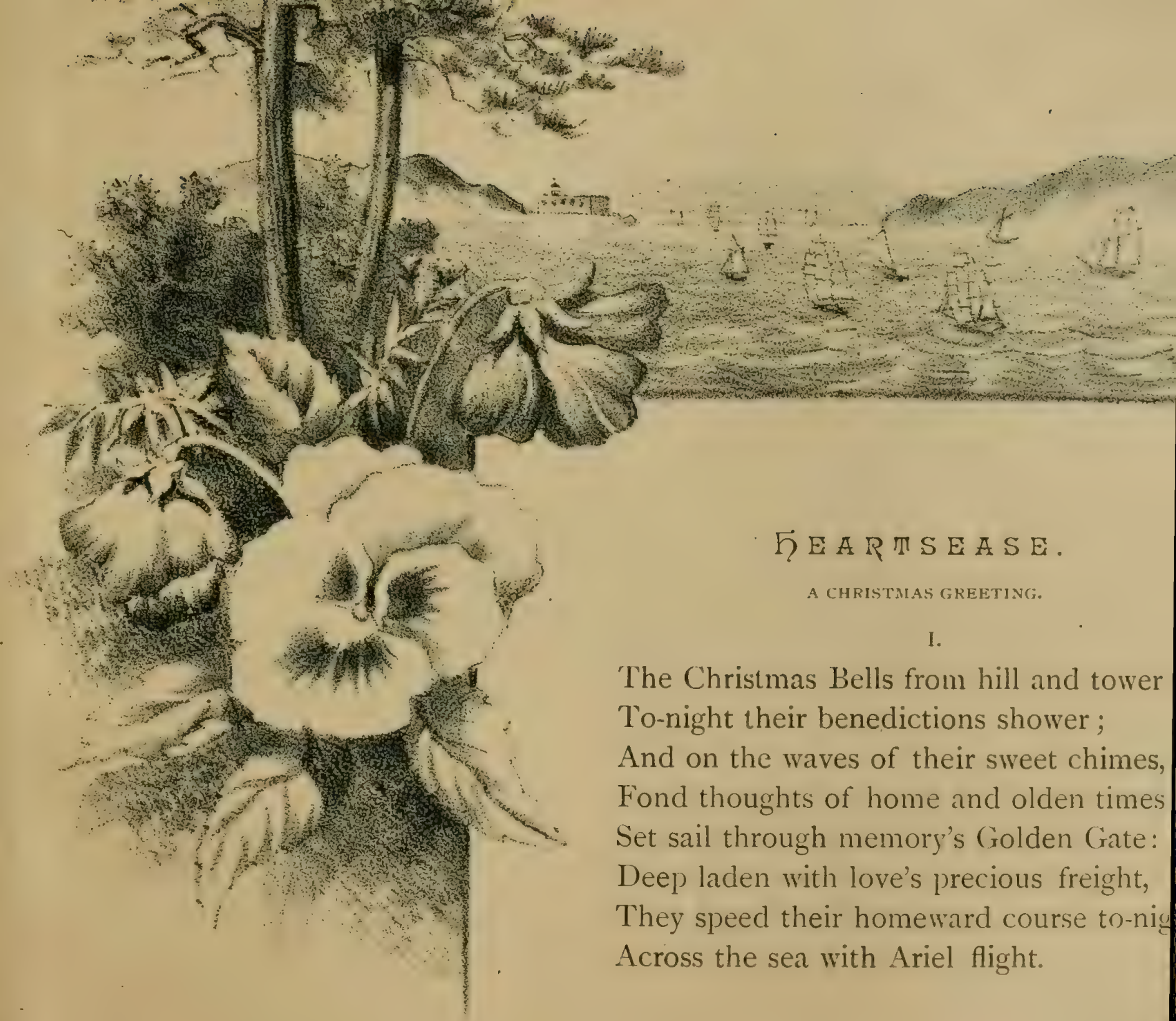
Like butterflies upon the breeze.

In your song my message bear.

These bells have rung unceasingly.

And each succeeding year but brings
another flower.

May Love's sweet voice sing to thee!

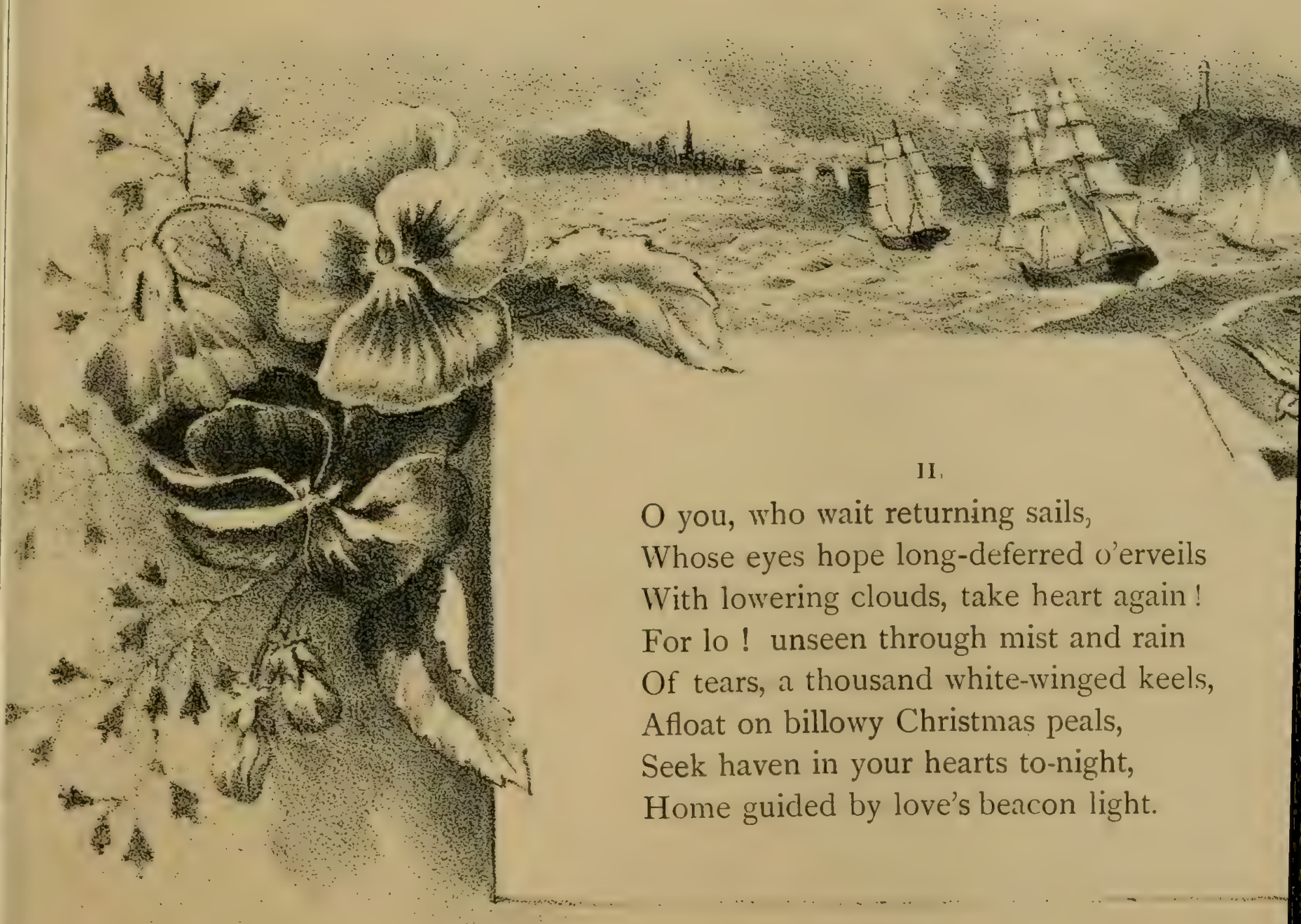


HEARTSEASE.

A CHRISTMAS GREETING.

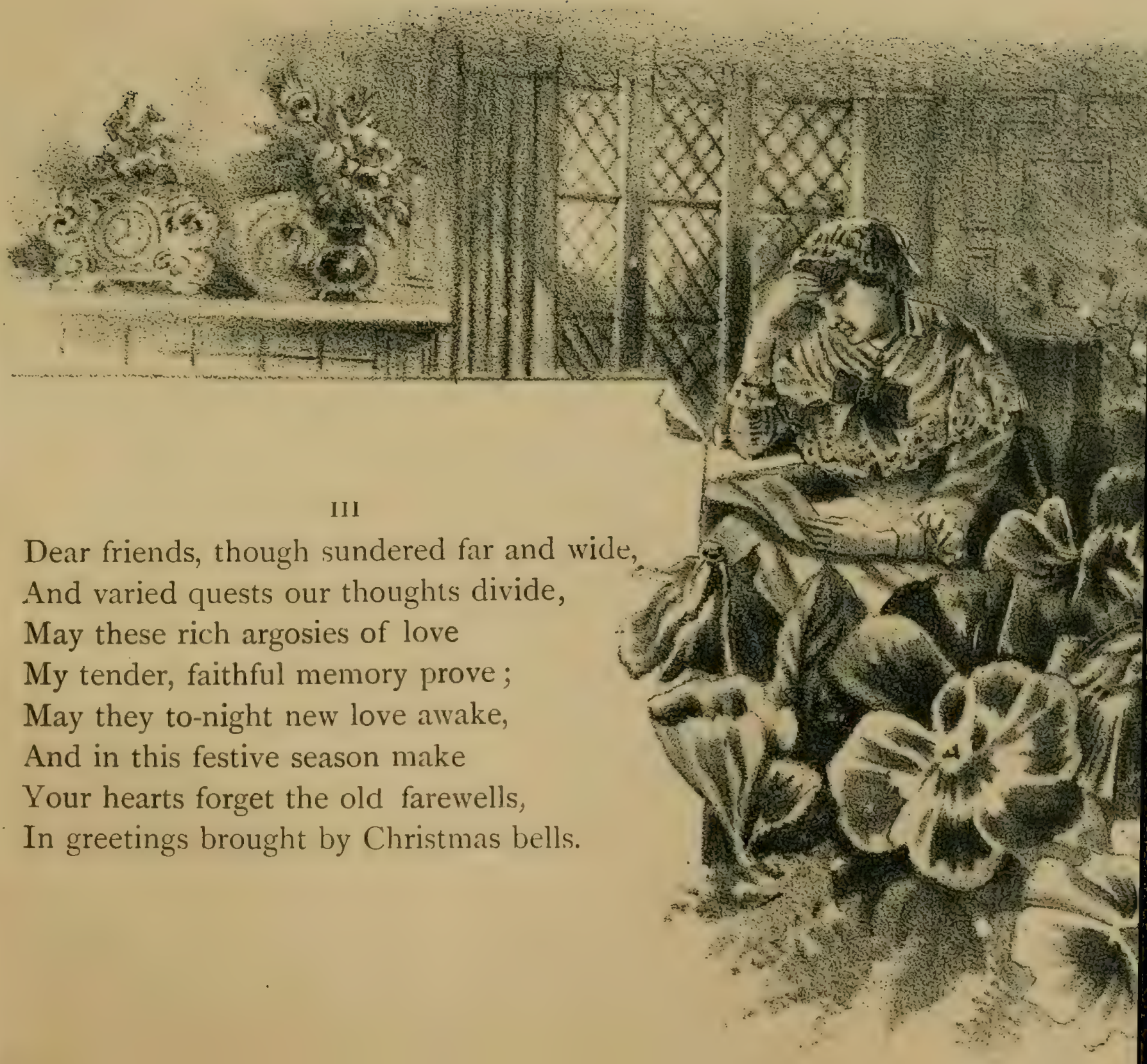
I.

The Christmas Bells from hill and tower
To-night their benedictions shower;
And on the waves of their sweet chimes,
Fond thoughts of home and olden times
Set sail through memory's Golden Gate:
Deep laden with love's precious freight,
They speed their homeward course to-nig
Across the sea with Ariel flight.



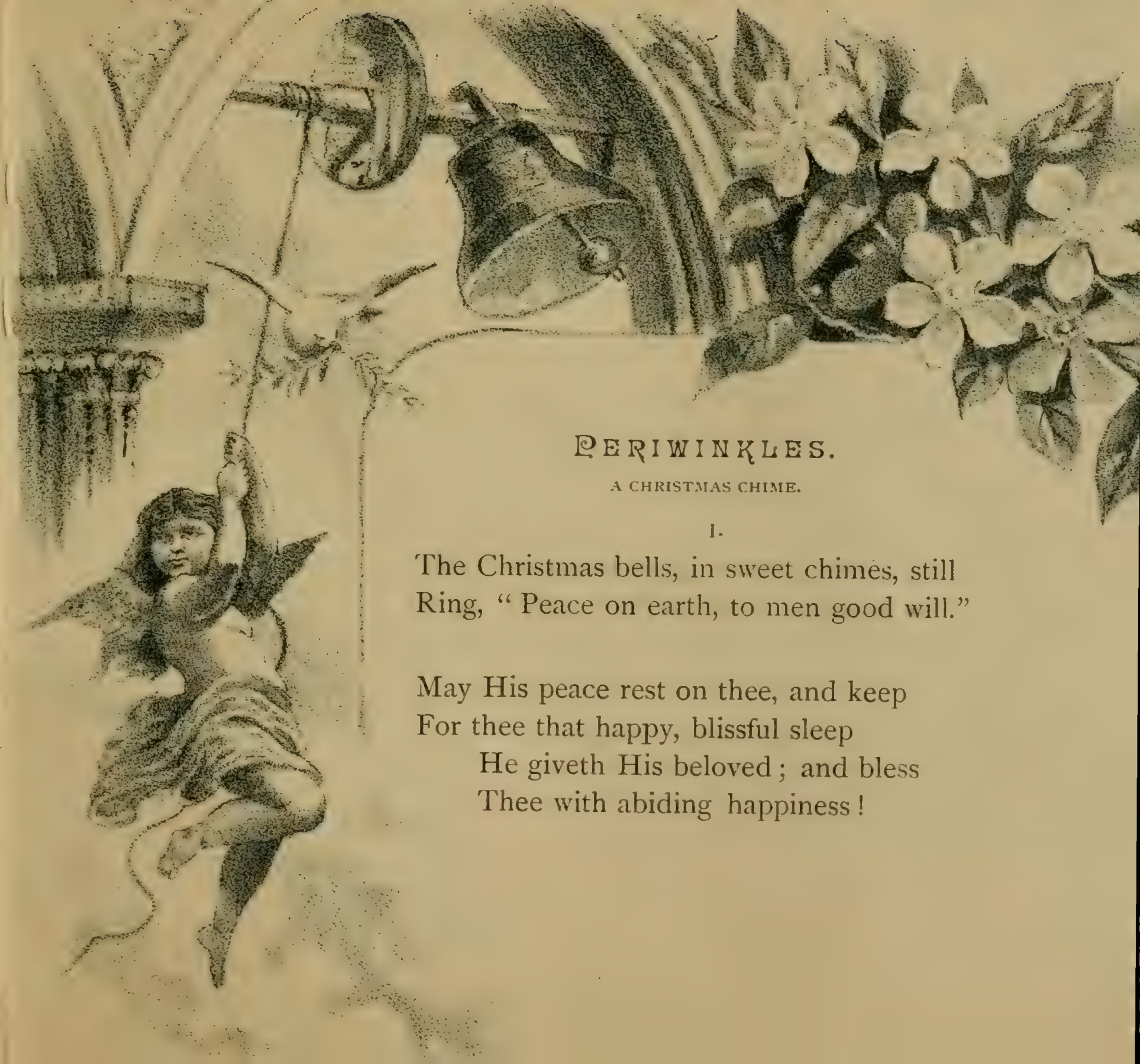
II.

O you, who wait returning sails,
Whose eyes hope long-deferred o'erveils
With lowering clouds, take heart again!
For lo! unseen through mist and rain
Of tears, a thousand white-winged keels,
Afloat on billowy Christmas peals,
Seek haven in your hearts to-night,
Home guided by love's beacon light.



III

Dear friends, though sundered far and wide,
And varied quests our thoughts divide,
May these rich argosies of love
My tender, faithful memory prove;
May they to-night new love awake,
And in this festive season make
Your hearts forget the old farewells,
In greetings brought by Christmas bells.



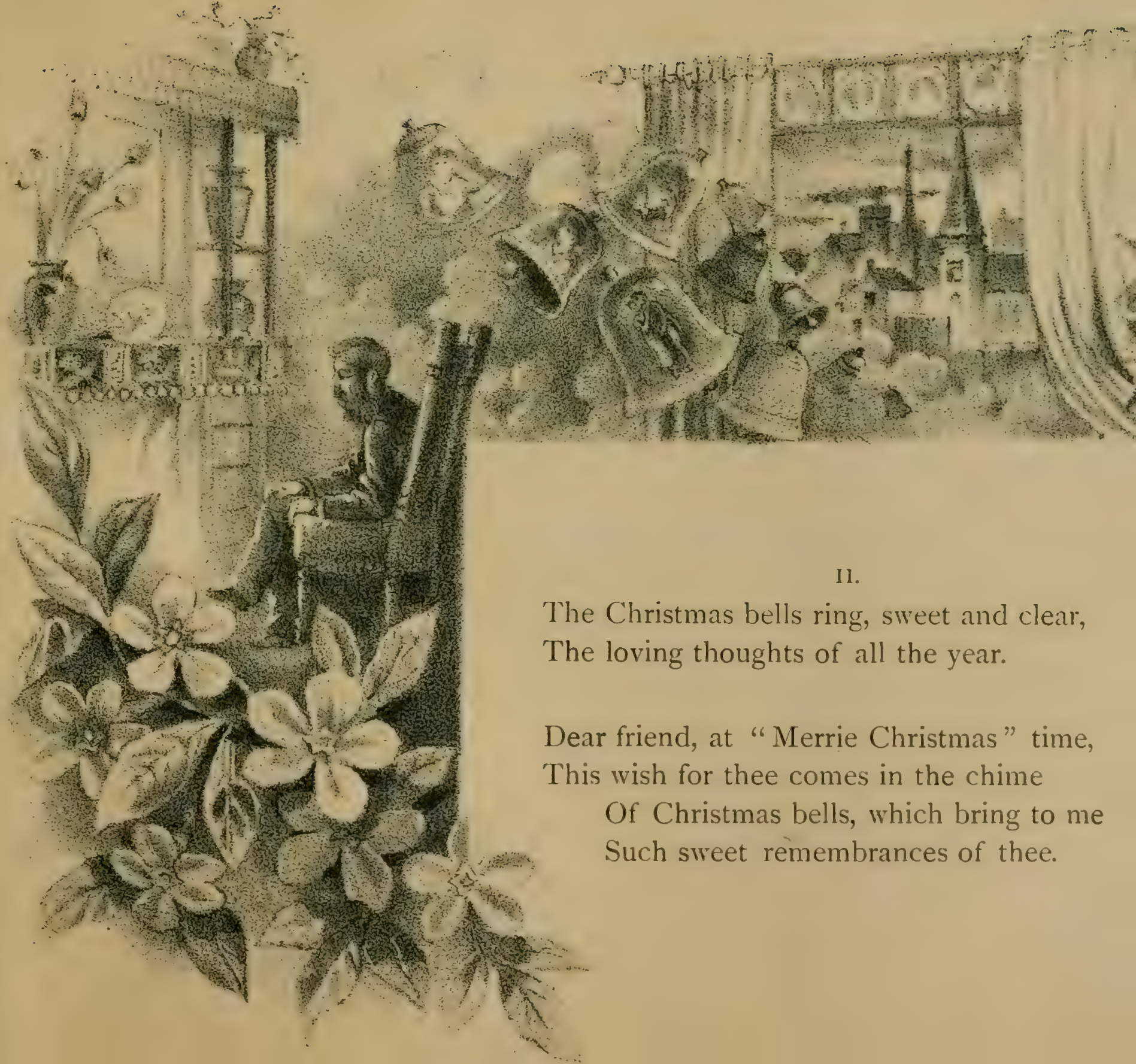
PERIWINKLES.

A CHRISTMAS CHIME.

I.

The Christmas bells, in sweet chimes, still
Ring, "Peace on earth, to men good will."

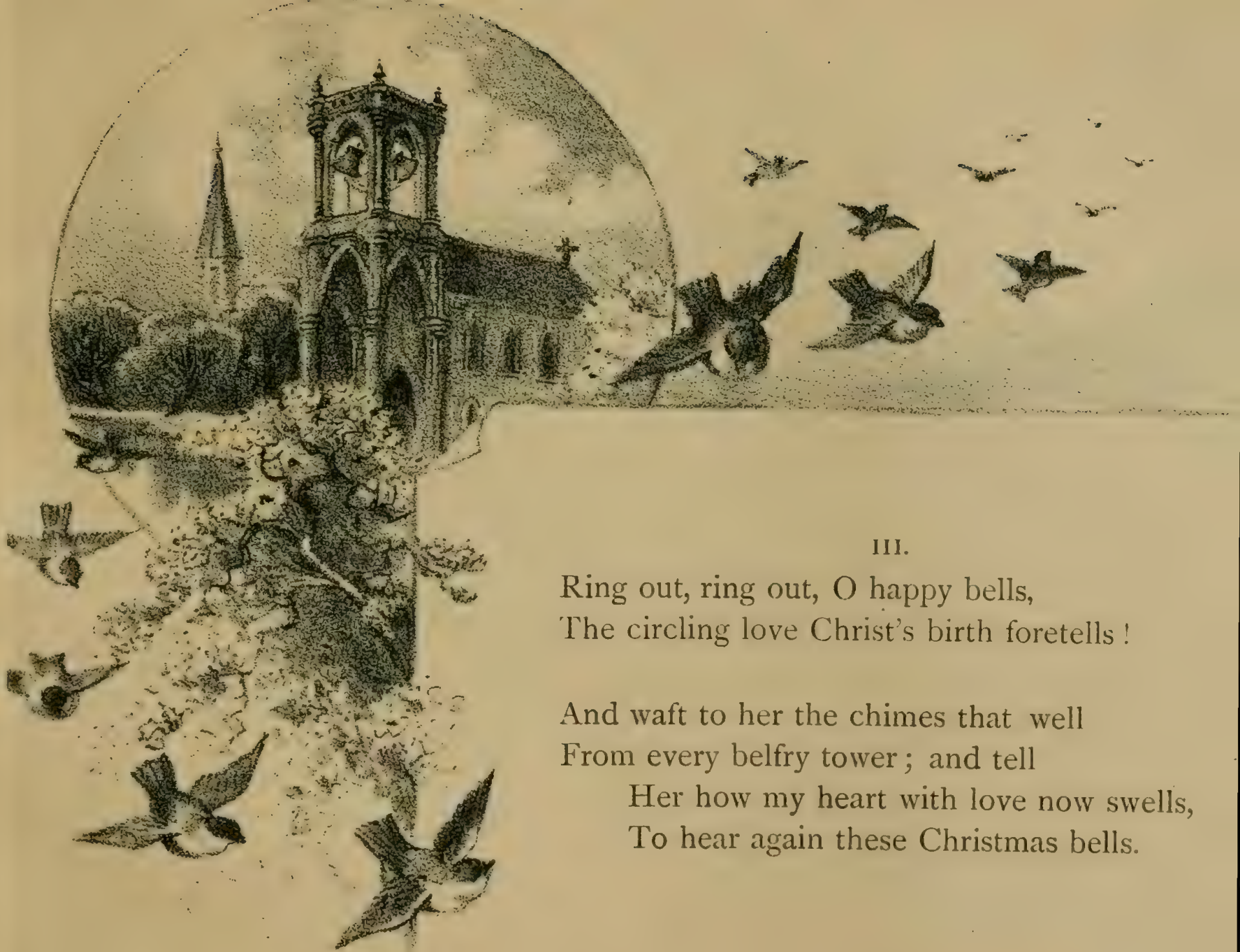
May His peace rest on thee, and keep
For thee that happy, blissful sleep
He giveth His beloved; and bless
Thee with abiding happiness!



II.

The Christmas bells ring, sweet and clear,
The loving thoughts of all the year.

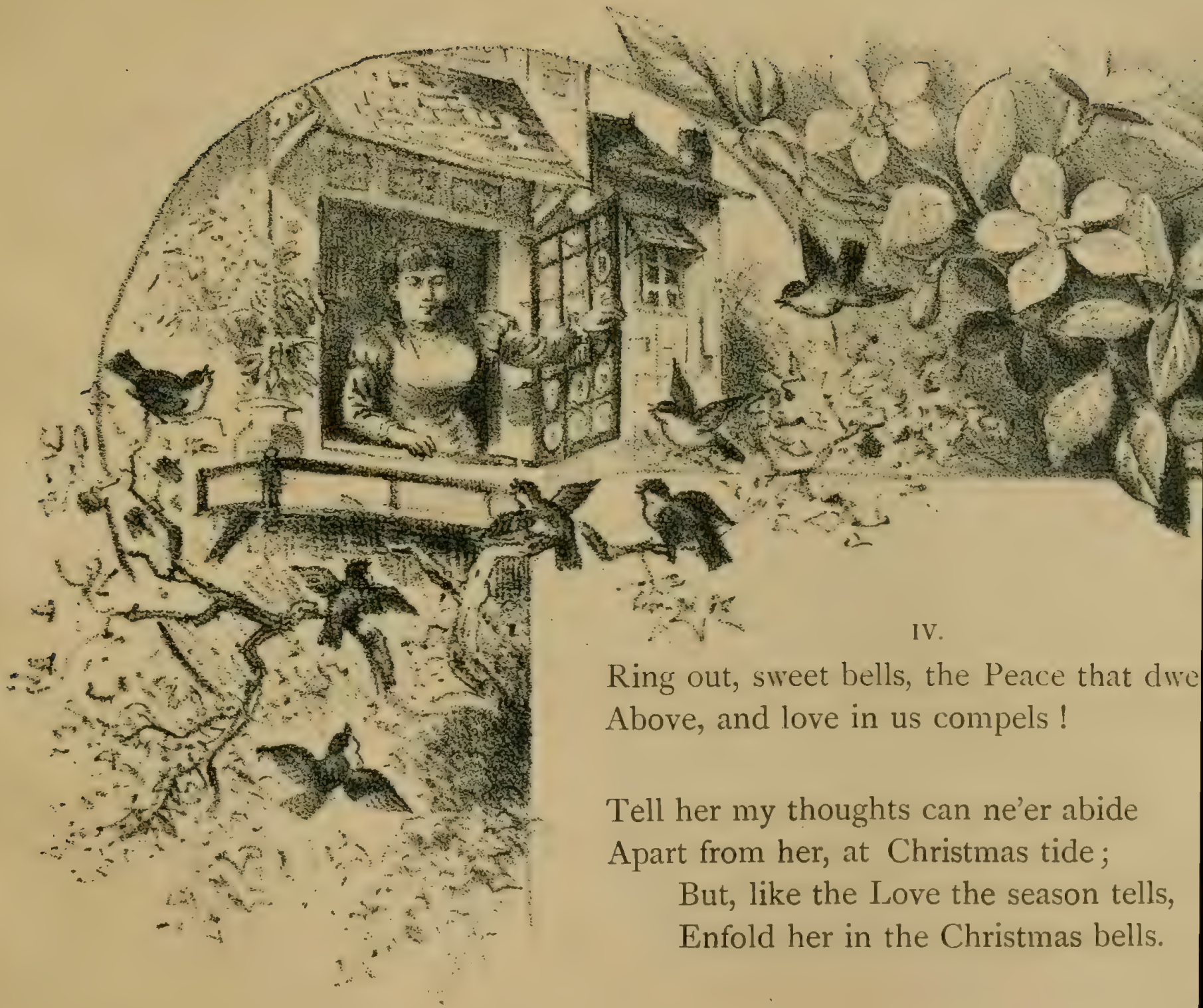
Dear friend, at "Merrie Christmas" time,
This wish for thee comes in the chime
Of Christmas bells, which bring to me
Such sweet remembrances of thee.



III.

Ring out, ring out, O happy bells,
The circling love Christ's birth foretells!

And waft to her the chimes that well
From every belfry tower; and tell
Her how my heart with love now swells,
To hear again these Christmas bells.



IV.

Ring out, sweet bells, the Peace that dwe
Above, and love in us compels !

Tell her my thoughts can ne'er abide
Apart from her, at Christmas tide ;
But, like the Love the season tells,
Enfold her in the Christmas bells.

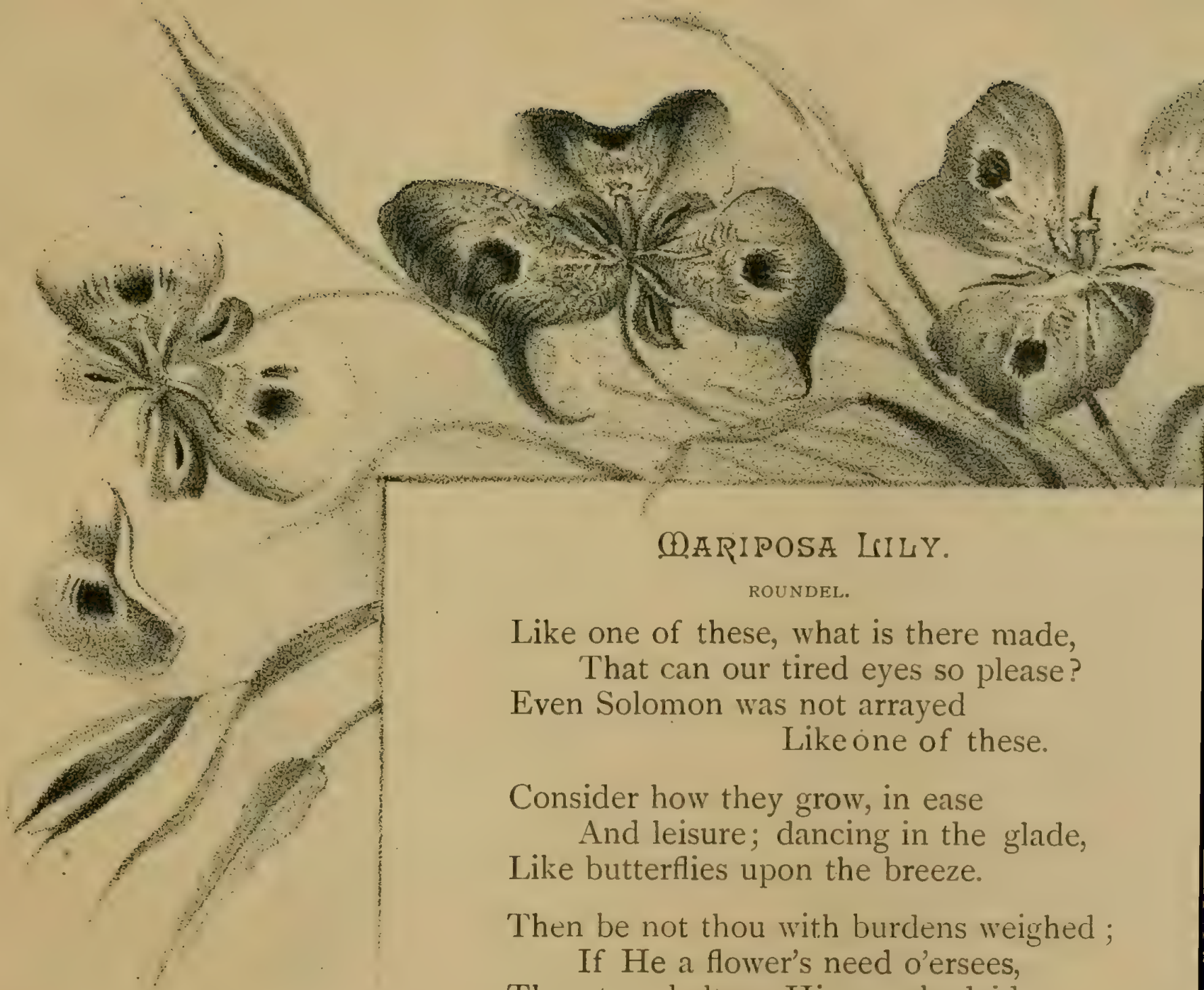
IMMORTELLE.

RONDEAU.

If hearts are dust, hearts' loves remain,
And somewhere, far above the plane
Of earthly thought, beyond the sea
That bounds this life, they will meet thee
And hold thee face to face again.

And when is done Life's restless reign,
If I hereafter but regain
Heart's love, why should I troubled be,
If hearts *are* dust?

By Love's indissoluble chain,
I know the grave does not detain
Heart's love. The very faith in me
Is pledge of an eternity,
Where I shall find heart's love again,
If hearts *are* dust.



Mariposa Lily.

ROUNDEL.

Like one of these, what is there made,
That can our tired eyes so please?
Even Solomon was not arrayed
Like one of these.

Consider how they grow, in ease
And leisure; dancing in the glade,
Like butterflies upon the breeze.

Then be not thou with burdens weighed;
If He a flower's need o'ersees,
Thou too shalt on His care be laid,
Like one of these.

Mariposa—Spanish for Butterfly.

Wild Forget-Me-Not.

O little birds who sing so much,
Teach me the secret of your art,
That my poor songs, like yours, may t
Her heart!

Come from your sheltering retreat,
And in your song my message bea
To her who is so gentle, sweet,
And fair!

With sweetest song, and pinions fleet,
Fly to her window far away,
And her reluctant ear entreat,
And say:—

"We bear his greeting on our wings,—
Fond wishes that this day renew
The happy flowers memory brings
To you:

"May their sweet fragrance ever bless
Your heart; wipe all your tears a
And bring Life's perfect happiness
For aye!"

LILY OF THE VALLEY.

RONDEAU.

The bells were told to ring in glee
The day when first thou cam'st to be
Our home's delight ; and in my
By Love's supreme, mysterious a
These bells have rung unceasingly.

And on this day there comes to me
Anew the tender memory
Of that sweet joy, which but in
The bells were told.

Dear child, in whose sweet eyes I see
The Heaven that waits above for me,
How far from me would Heaven
How comfortless would be my h
If through some darkened day for th
The bells *were* tolled !

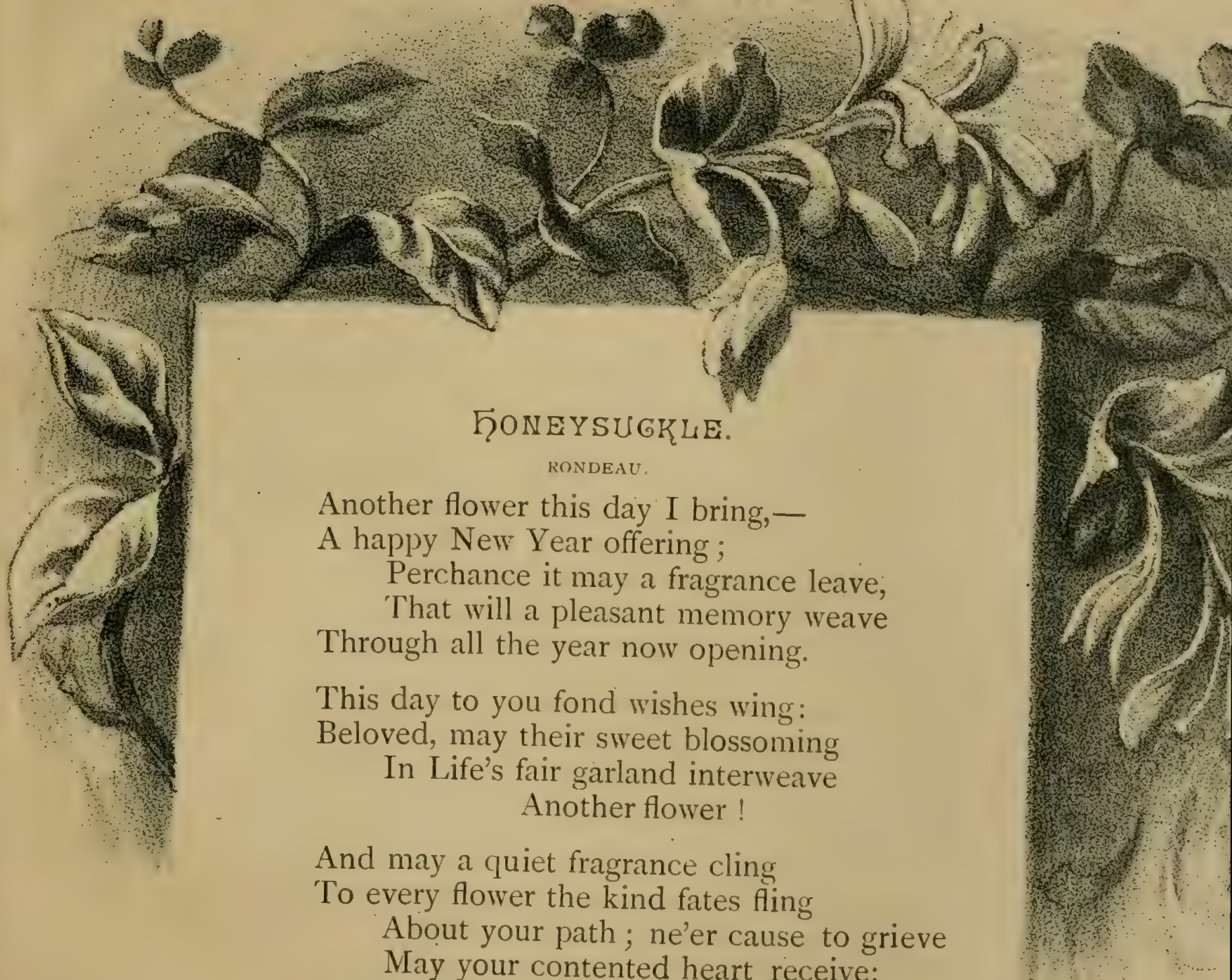
Orange Blossom.

RONDEAU.

Abide with me, O gentle guest!
Thy presence brings to me sweet rest:
Thy hands bring soothing to my brow:
Thy words such sympathy avow,
Thy going leaves me all unblest.

Still fairer shall thy bower be dressed;
Anticipated each request:
One song thy life shall be, if thou
Abide with me.

I would not longer have thee *guest;*
I cannot hold thee uncaressed
So near my heart: Sweet love, be thou
My queen; Love's tenderest name allow,
And ever in his happy rest
Abide with me!



HONEYSUCKLE.

RONDEAU.

Another flower this day I bring,—
A happy New Year offering;
Perchance it may a fragrance leave,
That will a pleasant memory weave
Through all the year now opening.

This day to you fond wishes wing:
Beloved, may their sweet blossoming
In Life's fair garland interweave
Another flower!

And may a quiet fragrance cling
To every flower the kind fates fling
About your path; ne'er cause to grieve
May your contented heart receive;
And each succeeding year but bring
Another flower!

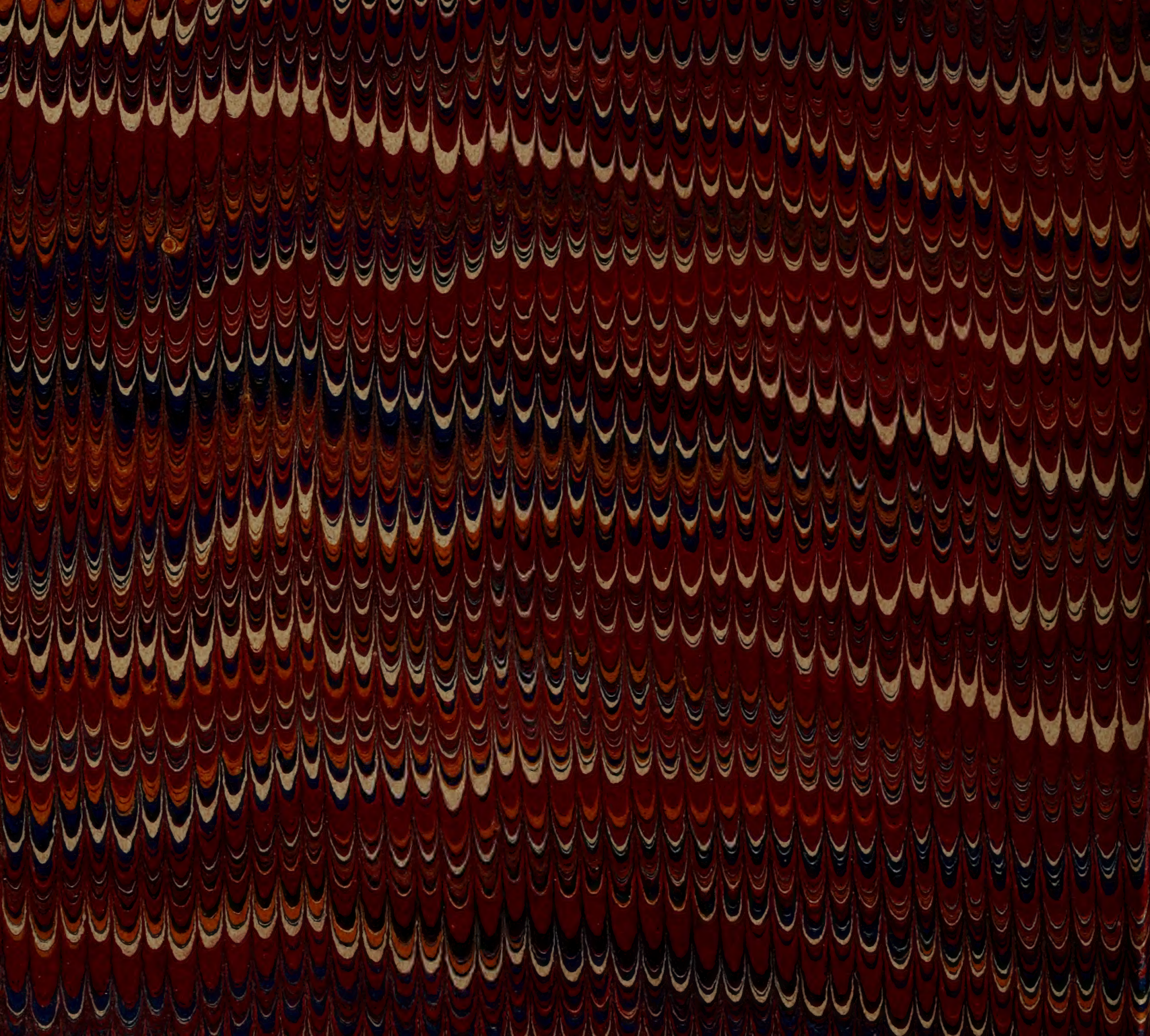
IVY LEAF.

Fond wishes I send thee:—
May memory lend thee
Glad thoughts to attend thee
Thy footsteps to bless!

May friendship e'er cling to thee;
May Love's sweet voice sing to thee,
And the future but bring to thee
Life's fondest caress!

L'ENVOI.

Another leaf in Life's mysterious book
To-day is turned. O friend, beloved, I leave
With you these humble flowers to mark the page,
If haply they may give a perfume to
The place, which shall make fragrant all its leaves.



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